neighbouring China and Myanmar hamper the existing telecast;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor;

(f) the details of the rural areas now being covered by DDK, Dibrugarh alongwith footprint areas; and

(g) the reasons for not uplinking Satellite facilities/ Microwave link for feeding news clippings to DDK, Guwahati?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY) : (a) The High Power (10 KW) TV Transmitter at Dibrugarh is operating from a tower with a reduced height i.e. 75 meters due to non-availability of clearance from the National Airport Authority of India for a height of 150 metres as envisaged earlier.

(b) There has been no change in the social objective of Dibrugarh DDK and it continues to cater to the agricultural programme requirements in addition to the production of programmes of social and other cultural interests. DDK, Dibrugarh has never been a commercial Kendra.

(c) The coverage range of HPT, Dibrugarh is about 45 km. subject to local terrain conditions. With a view to extend metro (DD-II) service in the area, a Low Power TV Transmitter for relaying DD-II service is under implementation at Dibrugarh.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) All rural areas falling within a radial distance of 45 km. from the High Power Transmitter, Dibrugarh receive TV service from the transmitter, subject to terrain conditons.

(g) At present, the facility for satellite uplinking is only available at Guwahati. A proposal is under implementation for setting up of uplinking terminals initially at all the State Capitals of North-Eastern States. Though, there is no proposal at present to set up uplinking terminals at any other locations in the North-Eastern States, the same will however, depend upon availability of resources required for the purpose in the future plans of Doordarshan.

Present Policy of Tourism

5314. DR. ASIM BALA : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the present policy of tourism;

(b) whether the tourism development programme have been given priority in the Ninth Five Year Plan period; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : (a) to (c) The present policy of the Government is to develop tourism as an instrument for sustainable human development. The Ninth Plan proposals for the development of tourism in the country include integrated development of infrastructure, development of Special Tourism Areas, enhancement of facilitation services, provision of incentives for attracting Private Sector Investment, Human Resources Development, strengthening of Publicity and Marketing, Research and Computerisation, etc.

Al Hostesses Festival of India at Laos, Cambodia

5315. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether some Air India hostesses, who were selected to represent the Air India at the Festival of India at Laos, Cambodia, have complained that they were forced to model for a private designer wearing transparent and revealing clothes and entertain local dignitaries;

(b) if so, the details, thereof;

(c) whether the said complaint of Air India hostesses has since been investigated; and

(d) if so, the details and outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) and (b) Two Air hostesses were deputed to Laos to participate in the Indian Cultural Festival. They complained that they were made to wear dresses designed by a private designer, perform like models on the ramp. Some of the dresses were transparent and objectionable, and they were also required to model of the hotel cafetaria.

(c) and (d) The report submitted by the management of Air India is under examination.

Posts included in Safety Category

5316. SHRI V. PRADEEP DEV : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the categories of posts which have been included in the Safety Category and kept outside the purview of the reservations for SC/ST;

(b) whether any review of such posts was undertaken;

(c) if so, when; and

(d) the reasons for including the post of Driver in Railways in the Safety Category just to deprive SC/ST of reservation benefits while the post of Pilot in Indian Airlines has not been included in Safety Category and same are reserved for SC/ST?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (c) The list of posts classified as Safety Categories has been reviewed from time to time and the current list is given in the statement enclosed. The rules of reservation for SC/ST apply to safety category posts also but no relaxation is